

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

In the claims:

1.-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) An antisense oligonucleotide ~~according to claim 1 having~~  
against SMAD7 comprising sequence (SEQ ID No 15[~~()~~]); 5'-  
ZTXGCCCTTCTCCCXGCAZC-3', wherein X is 5-methyl 2'-deoxycytidine 5'-monophosphate  
and Z is 2'- deoxyguanosine methylphosphonate, or the complementary sequence thereto.

11.-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the antisense oligonucleotide of  
claim [[18]] 10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of treating inflammatory bowel disease, comprising  
administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically acceptable amount of the antisense  
oligonucleotide of claim [[1]] 10.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of treating Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis,  
comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a pharmaceutically acceptable amount of  
the antisense oligonucleotide of claim [[1]] 10.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the antisense  
oligonucleotide is administered orally.

26. (New) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 10 wherein at least one  
internucleoside linkage is a methylphosphonate linkage.

27. (New) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 10 wherein the oligonucleotide  
comprises at least one methylphosphonate linkage and at least one phosphorothioate linkage.

28. (New) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 10 wherein 2'-deoxyribonucleotides  
are replaced by corresponding ribonucleotides.

29. (New) The antisense oligonucleotide of claim 10 wherein the oligonucleotide comprises up to 21 nucleotides in length.